

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 05064 290043Z
ACTION VO-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6534
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 05064

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CGEN JA KN KS
SUBJECT: VISA REQUEST BY PRO-DPRK COUNCIL OF KOREAN
RELIGIONISTS IN JAPAN

REF: A. USUN 00890 (NOTAL); B. TOKYO 4185 (NOTAL);
C. TOKYO 4413 (NOTAL)

1. CHANG TAE SONG, SECRETARY GENERAL OF COUNCIL OF KOREAN
RELIGIONISTS IN JAPAN, VISITED EMBASSY MARCH 24
ACCOMPANIED BY YUN TAE YONG AND RYU JONG MUK OF SAME
ORGANIZATION TO SUBMIT VISA APPLICATIONS AND PRESENT
LETTER REQUESTING APPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS FOR PURPOSE
OF TRAVEL TO UN "TO DISCUSS THE DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS
BY THE ROK GOVERNMENT WITH UN SECRETARY GENERAL KURT
WALDHEIM." GROUP HOPED TO VISIT NEW YORK FOR TEN DAYS IN
LATE APRIL.

2. NONE OF GROUP HELD VALID PASSPORTS, ALTHOUGH CHANG
EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THEY COULD RECEIVE IDENTITY
CERTIFICATES AND RE-ENTRY PERMITS FROM GOJ AS THEY HAD
REPORTEDLY RECEIVED SIMILAR DOCUMENTS FOR TRAVEL TO CANADA
LAST SPRING.

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3. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY, COUNCIL
OF KOREAN RELIGIONISTS IN JAPAN IS SUBSIDIARY GROUP OF
CHOSEN SOREN, DPRK-CONTROLLED ORGANIZATION OF ETHNIC
KOREANS RESIDENT IN JAPAN. CHANG TAE SONG IS SENIOR
CHOSEN SOREN CADRE OF LONG STANDING AND REPORTEDLY MEMBER
OF THAT ORGANIZATION'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

4. FOR USUN'S INFORMATION, WE WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT WITHOUT JAPANESE RE-ENTRY PERMIT, QUESTION OF US VISAS FOR CHANG AND OTHERS IS MOOT POINT. DESPITE CHANG'S EXPRSSIONS OF CONFIDENCE, GOJ AUTHORITIES HAVE OFTEN BEEN RELUCTANT TO ISSUE SUCH DOCUMENTS TO PRO-DPRK RESIDENTS FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL THAT IS POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED. WE HAVE INFORMALLY NOTED CHANG'S APPLICATION TO FONOFF NE ASIA DIVISION OFFICIAL, WHOSE INITIAL REACTION WAS THAT IT WAS "HIGHLY UNLIKELY" GOJ WOULD ISSUE TRAVEL DOCUMENTS TO THIS CHOSEN SOREN PARTY. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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